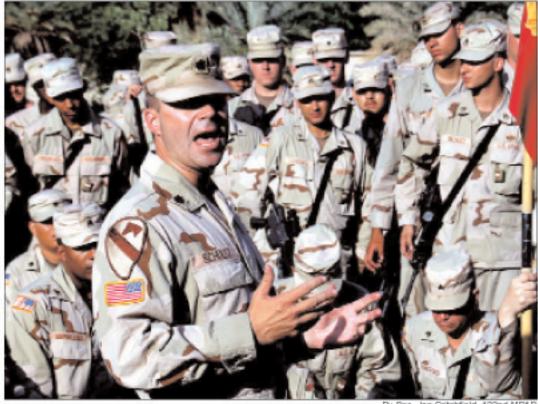
Operation Iraqi Freedom II

"Telling the First Team's Story"

Wednesday, June 9, 2004

## 3rd Brigade Combat Team Honors Awardees



By Spc. Jan Critchfield, 122nd MPAI

Lt. Col. Greg Schultz, commander of 2nd Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment, addresses his troops, congratulating them for the progress and effort that they have made in the two months they have been in Iraq, saying that there will be challenges ahead, but if they put forth the effort required to overcome those challenges, they can go home with a feeling of pride.

By Spc. Jan Critchfield

122nd MPAD

BAGHDAD, Iraq – A ceremony took place on June 5 at forward operating base Steel Dragon to honor three Purple Heart and one Army Commendation Medal recipients.

Sgt. Staffon McKinley and Pvt. Joseph Fritz of Headquarters Battery, 2nd Battalion, 82nd Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Cavalry Division, and Sgt. Dennis Skyles of Company B, 1st Battalion, 160th Infantry Regiment of the California Army National Guard received the Purple Heart for wounds sustained by enemy action.

The three were injured by fragments from improvised explosive devices during three separate incidents.

Pvt. Sean Watkins of 2-82 FA was awarded the Army Commendation Medal for the concern for human life he displayed when he treated a young Iraqi boy who was suffering from heat stroke.

"These Soldiers are typical of Soldiers in [Task Force Steel Dragon]," said Lt. Col. Greg Schultz, commander of 2-82 FA.

The Steel Dragons have conducted 1,100 missions in the two months they have been in Iraq, logging 186,000 miles on the gun trucks they have been using on escort missions and patrols, Schultz said.

"The number of miles on our vehicles doesn't only show that our line Soldiers are working hard, but also the mechanics and those working behind the scenes," he said. "[The Steel Dragons] are meeting or exceeding my expectations on a daily basis."

# Soldiers, Iraqis Fix Faulty Sewage Facilities

B y Spc. Andy Miller 122nd MPAD

AL RASHID, Baghdad, Iraq- The problem is in the homes, it's in the streets, and it stinks. Its sewage, and its backing up in Al Rashid's perpetually clogged and faulty system. If it's not fixed by the winter rainy season, the problem could get worse, like it has in the past.

To help the people of Al Rashid, the 5th Brigade Combat Team of the 1st Cavalry Division, has a plan. The backers of this plan say they can solve the sewage problem, and they'll use local Iraqis to do it.

"The sewers must improve for the district, and ultimately the city to move forward," Maj. Gen. Peter Chiarelli, the 1st Cav. Div. commander, said to Iraqis at a ground breaking ceremony in Al Rashid May 26. The ceremony, that took place at a faulty sewage pumping station, explained the First Team's plan for overhauling the district's neglected sewage system. Recently, the Coalition Provisional Authority approved \$40 million for the cause. Iraqi contractors will do most of the



# Hero of the Week



## 1-8 Cav. Soldier Uses Training to Save Lives

By Capt, Jayson Morgan 1-8 Cavalry Regiment

2nd Lt. John Jefferson is truly a home town hero. Approximately midnight May 30, John's efforts helped to save the lives of two of his fellow Soldiers.

A patrol from Company D, 1st Battalion 8th Cavalry Regiment, was traveling down a narrow road near the Tigris River in southeast Baghdad. The first vehicle in the patrol was hit by an improvised device explosive (IED). Jefferson was traveling in the third vehicle in the patrol. As the second and third vehicles fired upon the enemy that detonated the device, Jefferson and Sgt. Rene Maldanado, also of Company D, jumped out of their vehicles and immediately started to render aid.

Although one Soldier died

instantly from the massive blast, they pulled two severely injured Soldiers from the wreckage and began to perform combat life saving techniques that they learned back at Fort Hood, Texas.

Thinking on his feet, Jefferson took his kneepad and placed it on the wounded Soldier's leg as a tourniquet. He then cleared a place in his vehicle for the wounded men. and they started for the Combat Surgical Hospital. Jefferson along with Pfc. Mark Whitmeyer continued to render aid to the Soldiers enroute to the hospital.

They soon stopped and loaded the injured men onto a Medevac helicopter. Both of the injured Soldiers survived the ordeal and are currently back in the United States undergoing further treatment.

The doctors and nurses at the hospital said the quick thinking and actions of Jefferson and the other Soldiers on the ground that night most certainly saved the lives of the wounded Soldiers.

Jefferson is married to Rachael Jefferson who currently resides in Dixon, Tenn. He is a 2003 graduate of Evangel University in Springfield, Mo. and calls Morrison, Tenn. home. He received his commission as a Field Artillery second lieutenant June 2003 at the Officer Candidate School in Fort Benning, Ga. Jefferson was assigned to 3rd Battalion 82nd Field Artillery in January 2004, and deployed as a company fire support officer with the 1st Battalion 8th Cavalry Regiment in March 2004.

Jefferson insisted that he



By Capt, Jayson Morgan, 1-8 Cay The 5th Brigade Combat Team chose 2nd Lt. John Jefferson as their 'Hero of the Week' for life-saving actions he took while traveling on patrol.

did nothing extraordinary that night and said the bravery of the injured men was phenome-

"When the time comes, you do what you're trained to do, and you're glad when it works," Jefferson said.

### 1ST CAVALRY DIVISION BAND SUMMER CONCERT SERIES

Featuring musical ensembles of the 1st Cavalry Division Band under the direction of CW3 Glen Nardin and Senior Enlisted Bandleader 1SG Robert Stage (The first concert of the series will feature the full band performing a traditional military band repertoire.) June 9

Wednesday

Location: Camp Victory North Post Exchange Plaza All concerts in the series begin at 7:30 p.m.

### Useful Iraqi Words/Phrases

We are here to help you

iH-na ih-na Hat-ta in-saa-dak



Baghdad, Iraq Thursday High: 102 Low: 75



Weather information provided by 1CD Staff Weather Office (SWC

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# Home Front/News

# ▶ Beating the Heat

With temperatures on the rise, Justin Garza and Chrislyn Herring, both 15 of Killeen, look for relief from the heat in the form of a frozen treat.

### Fife Fourth-Graders Discover Sea Life



The News Tribune

Sammi Garza, 10, a fourth-grader at Endeavour Intermediate School in Fife, gets pinched by a crab during an outing Friday at Tacoma's Titlow Beach. ▶ From The News Tribune TACOMA, Wash.-Anyone on Titlow Beach on Friday got a primer in how preteens express amazement, curiosity and delight - all generated by the discovery of the marine life exposed by the morning's low tide.

Fourth-graders from Endeavour Intermediate School in Fife were roaming the beach, taking advantage of the low tides to explore among the rocks and pilings. Serving as host and chief critter identifier was Tom Weathers, program manager at Tacoma Nature Center.

### Red Team Projects Include Oversight of Al Rashid's Sewage System

Continued from Page 1 work with oversight from the Red Team and American contractor, Fluor-Amec. "Right now it is hopeless," said Dr. Ghazi Maghak, who has been working on Baghdad's sewage system for over 40 years, and is now a consultant on the Red Team project. "It is so full of debris and so full of rubbish, we even find long trees in them."

Capt. Matthew McCulley, the Company B commander with the 8th Engineer Battalion, explained that Al Rashid's sewage problem is largely a result of the district's trash problem.

"The biggest problem is just the trash getting into the system, and people throwing trash in the manholes, causing the system to block up and backlog," McCulley said.

Other problems with the system include broken pipes, and pumping stations that aren't running at full capacity, he said.

To fix the broken system, Red Team is working on projects to solve the area's lack of trash-collection facilities, in conjunction with the planned overhaul of the sewage piping and pumping system. This involves cleaning all the manholes, fixing the broken lines, and getting the substations running at 100 percent capacity. Contracts for the work will go Iraqi contractors, which could provide an added benefit to the local economy.

"We definitely want to use Iraqi subcontractors from Baghdad to do the work, so we can get more employment obviously for the Al Rashid people, and for the people within Baghdad itself,"

Work on the project is scheduled to take place over the next 12 to 18 months. Some improvements will be seen immediately, but at the end of the timeline, the results will be felt by everyone in Al Rashid, McCulley said.

"The end state is to have the sewage flowing from the house to the pipelines to the pumping stations to the Karkh sewage treatment plant," McCulley said. In addition to fixing the existing system, the plan calls for building new lines to areas that never had sewer service. In these areas, raw sewage currently runs from homes into open canals that run through the center of town.



By Spc. Andy Miller, 122nd MPAD

Stagnant water in the streets of the Al Shurta neighborhood demonstrates the sewage-system problems faced by residents of Al Rashid. The neglected and damaged sewage system in Al Rashid will be overhauled by local Iraqi contractors with supervision from the 5th Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division and American contractor Fluor-Amec. With some results expected immediately, Al Rashid's sewage problems should be considerably improved within the next 18 months, according to Capt. Matthew McCulley, the Company B commander, 8th Engineer Battalion.

# Sports/Leisure

### Tampa Tribune Apologizes to Its Readers

▶ From AP

TAMPA, Fla.- The Tampa Tribune apologized to its readers and the Tampa Bay Lightning Tuesday after mistakenly running an editorial saying the hockey team had lost Game 7 of the Stanley Cup finals.

Publisher Gil Thelen said it was unclear how the mistake was made Monday night as the newspaper rushed to press following the Lightning's 2-1 victory over the <u>Calgary Flames</u> in Game 7.

The Tribune had prepared two editorials — one for a win and one for a loss. But despite placing the correct editorial in its computerized page-making system, the one prepared for a loss appeared in the newspaper's 275,000 copies.

Thelen and Tribune Editor Frank Denton said the newspaper was investigating the error to make sure it doesn't happen again.

Editorial Page Editor Rosemary Goudreau issued a statement on the newspaper's



Members of the Tampa Bay Lightning gather around the Stanley Cup after beating the Calgary Flames 2-1 in game seven of the NHL Stanley Cup Finals Monday, June 7, in Tampa, Fla.

affiliated Web site, TBO.com, telling readers "We took a puck in the gut this morning."

The incorrect editorial that appeared in the paper opened, "The Tampa Bay Lightning didn't win the National Hockey League's Stanley Cup last night. But the team had a championship season nevertheless."

The correct editorial, which didn't get in the paper, lauded the Lightning and credited the team for generating pride and excitement in the community.

A similar mistake happened to the New York Post last October when early editions of the paper carried an editorial bemoaning the Yankees' loss to the Boston Red Sox in the AL Championship Series. But the Yankees had staged a late rally to tie Game 7 and then won in extra innings.

#### TV GUIDE Spectrum PACIFIC SportsCenter Crimson Tide Lizzie McGuire/ The Tonight Show with Jay Leno/ 5 p.m. All That! 5:30 p.m. 6 p.m. The Late Show with David Letterman The Wild Jeopardy/ NBA Finals Late Access Thornberrys/ p.m. Headline News Night Hollywood Spongebob 7:30 p.m. 6:30 p.m. Squarepants ESPNews/ The Lost World: NASCAR Busch The Simpsons/ Headline News Jurassic Park Series - MBNA Happy Days p.m. America 200 8 Simple Rules.../ Super The Bernie Mac Millionaire ('04) p.m. Show Fear Factor MLB - St. Louis Star Trek: Next The Purple 10 p.m. Rose of Cairo Cardinals @ Generation 10:30 p.m. Chicago Cubs

### Today in History June 9

From historychannel.com

1534 French navigator
Jacques Cartier discovers
the St. Lawrence River in
present-day
Quebec, Canada
1772 British vessel
Gaspee burned off Rhode
Island (an incident that
some regard as the first
naval engagement of the
American Revolution)
1863 The largest cavalry
battle of the Civil War is
fought at Brandy Station,
Va.

1934 Donald Duck makes his first film appearance in The Wise Little Hen, a short by Walt Disney 1944 The Red Army invades Karelian Isthmus in Finland 1956 Bestselling crime novelist Patricia Cornwall, creator of crime-solving medical examiner Kay Scarpetta. 1964 CIA report challenges "Domino Theory" 1972 South Vietnamese soldiers reach An Loc



NBA
FINALS
(Best of 7 series)
Game 2 · Tuesday

1973 Secretariat wins

Triple Crown



Detroit @ Los Angeles

(Detroit leads series 1-0)

